REMARKS

This is a preliminary amendment in which additional claims have been added to further define Applicant's contribution to the art. An early and favorable action is hereby earnestly solicited.

Should any questions arise concerning the application, the Examiner is invited to call the Applicant's attorneys at the number listed below.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 7, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Michel Marty et al., Applicant

By: _____

James H. Morris
Reg. No.: 34,681
WOLF, GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C.
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206
Tel. (617) 646-8227

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